

Hampden Conservation Commission
Site Conservation Plan

General Information

- Name: Hammond Pond
- Location:
 - General description: conservation easement south/east of Hammond Pond
 - Legal boundaries
 - Map(s)
- Size (acres): ~300 acres (conservation easement)
- Owner(s): Deighen family (Heritage Landmark Trust holds easement). Town owns some land along the stream (wetland south of I-95), accessible by I-95 or from the water.
- Property Value:
- Public Access: private property (posted hunting by permission)—easement doesn't provide for public access. Cemetery abuts it but is bounded by wetlands and I-95. By canoe/boat down Souadabscook and Hammond Pond or ski in during winter. Because Hammond Pond is >10 acres (Great Pond), any undeveloped land can be used to access the pond. *We would really want people to understand this is not public land and that ideally they should have permission before going on it.* Town has access to Webber Brook. Snowmobile trail (ITS); snowmobile club next to cemetery.
- Who is responsible for management decisions? Deighen and Heritage Landmark Trust

Current Status for Conservation:

- Existing surveys/maps/documentation: legal boundaries of property were surveyed for the easement (upper Souadabscook was surveyed for archaeological artifacts).
- Conservation values site currently provides:
 - Protection of Hammond pond
 - Connection with Souadabscook
 - One of the largest undeveloped habitat blocks in Hampden (Beginning with Habitat)
 - Alewives breed in Hammond Pond
 - Loons, bald eagle nest (Hermon Pond)
 - Stream has waterfowl (wood ducks, mergansers?), otter, salmon?
 - Open space, deer wintering area to west (off Shaw Hill Rd)?
- Condition:
 - Class A stream
 - Woodlot is in good condition
- History of use as applicable to conservation:
 - Alewife fishing downstream
 - Canoeing & fishing

- Camps on Hammond Pond (owned by Deighens) – not part of conservation easement and not user-friendly
- Existing protection(s):
 - Shoreland zoning
 - Conservation easement
 - NRPA wildlife habitats?
- Constraints:
 - Accessibility: private land, limited access other than by water. I-95 is a barrier. Potential access from I-95 Rest Area on southbound lane (only to lands on that side of I-95).
 - Site potential: not great for public use without adding trails or more access. Could improve water access (Vafiadis boat launch).
 - Regulatory: Shoreland zoning
 - Archaeological sites:
 - Upper Souadabascook Indian sites
 - Gold/silver mines along stream
 - Historic cabin on Hammond Pond
 - Easements: Landmark Heritage Trust
 - Known hazards:
 - I-95
 - Changes to easement/land inheritance
 - Development along Rt. 9-Rt. 202?
 - Arsenic levels are high

Proposed Management:

- Goal(s) of site relative to conservation in Hampden:
 - Protection of Hammond pond
 - Maintain as open, undeveloped space
 - Access to upper Souadabscook?
 - Hunting, skiing, hiking by landowner permission
 - Interpretive canoe trail
- Strategy to achieve conservation goal(s):
 - Maintain easement
 - Educate public about access/permission needed
 - Develop/improve boat launch?
 - Maintain snowmobile trail
 - Add adjacent lands to easement area? West side (off Shaw Hill Rd.)
 - Work with Town of Hermon
- Input to conservation plan:
 - Public

- Landowner
 - Town officials
- Potential partnerships and programs:
 - Snowmobile club
 - Deighens
 - Heritage Landmark Trust
 - Town of Hermon
 - Penobscot Paddle & Chowder (other canoeing groups?)
 - Envirathon
- Beneficiaries of goal(s):
- Economic costs/benefits of proposed management: